Application No.: 10/549,528

Response to Office Action mailed 3/31/08

## Amendment to the Specification:

On page 74 of the specification, please replace paragraph [0280] with the following new

3 paragraph:

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10001 In Scheme 5, the mannosamine glycoside 1, is treated with the active ester of a

- 5 protected amino acid (e.g., glycine) derivative, converting the sugar amine residue into the
- 6 corresponding protected amino acid amide adduct. The adduct is treated with an aldolase to
- 7 form the sialic acid 2. Compound 2 is subjected to catalytic hydrogenation of to produce
- 8 compound 3. The amine introduced via formation of the glycine adduct is utilized as a locus of
- 9 PEG or PPG attachment by reacting compound 3 with an activated PEG or PPG derivative (e.g.,
- 10 PEG-C(O)NHS, PPG-C(O)NHS), producing 4 or 5, respectively.

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